

'Loophole scheme' gives big box stores big tax break

■ Fenton's Home Depot property taxes went from \$225,253 to \$94,040 in one year

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

City of Fenton officials have taken steps to make sure their voices are heard on an issue that is costing municipalities across the state millions of dollars in lost tax revenue.

At a meeting earlier this month, the City Council voted unanimously to join in

a brief of *Amici Curiae* (Latin for friend of the court) that has been submitted to the Michigan Supreme Court on behalf of 17 Michigan cities, including Fenton, one village, 12 townships and three counties (see sidebar).

See **BIG BOX STORES** on 6A

TRI-COUNTY TIMES
TIM JAGIELO

Many big box stores, such as The Home Depot, are able to take advantage of controversial tax breaks which undervalue many 'warehouse' properties, allowing them to pay substantially less in property taxes.



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Weekend Times

SUNDAY EDITION

\$1.00



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

The winning \$4.4-million lotto ticket purchased from Smitty's Exit 80 has created a buzz around the Fenton gas station, located at North and Torrey roads.

Are you the \$4.4-million winner?

■ Smitty's Exit 80 sells a still unclaimed \$4.4-million winning Michigan Lottery ticket

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Doug "Smitty" Smith was out and about shopping for his Fenton business, Smitty's Exit 80 on Thursday when one of his cashiers called to tell him the exciting news.

The winning \$4.4-million ticket for the Michigan Classic Lotto 47 had been sold at his store.

See **WINNER** on 13A

“As of yet, it's unclaimed. You sell tickets all week for the drawing. We've got a lot of regulars who play their regular numbers.”

Doug "Smitty" Smith
Owner of Smitty's Exit 80 in Fenton

Chef's Showdown



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Chefs Jody Brunori of The Laundry (bottom) and Matt Cooper, culinary director at Mott Community College (upper left) finish plating their entrees at the Chef's Showdown on Thursday night. The event was a telecast, gala-style fundraiser for the Fenton Center of Hope at The Freedom Center, and included food samplings from 20 area restaurants along with live entertainment. Brunori, along with her sous chef Kyle Brunori, defeated Cooper and his sous chef Anthony Guiett. See story on Page 5B



WGVUNews.org

New signs are being posted as speed limits are raised on several north-south rural highways in Michigan.

Heading north?

■ You'll notice the new 75 mph speed limit on some rural highways, including I-75 north from Bay City

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Drivers traveling north on Michigan's three main north-south highways will be able to legally drive 75 mph, beginning this month.

New 75 mph signs are being installed by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) on 600 miles of rural roadways, while another 900 miles of state highways will see top speeds rise to 65 mph from the current 55 mph.

The first freeways getting the 75 mph limits are I-75 between Bay City and Sault Ste. Marie, portions of US-127 between Lansing and Grayling and US-131 between Grand Rapids and Cadillac.

Trucks and buses will be able to travel 65 mph in those areas, according to MDOT.

See **75 MPH** on 5A

None of the higher speeds are allowed in metropolitan areas or anywhere in southern Michigan, according to MDOT.

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“New political philosophy.

If a man wants to marry a man, OK. If a woman wants to marry a woman, OK. If they want to abort fetuses, OK. In three generations, there will be no more Democrats.”



“As a long-time subscriber to the Tri-County Times I've always

found that the paper is comprised of about one third news, one third business and one third others. The Hot lines are the others, entertaining, informative and just downright fun. Keep it up, Tri-County Times.”



“What's the difference

between a baby and a fetus? A baby is what you call your child if you love it. A fetus is what you call your child before you kill it.”



COMMENT
OF THE WEEK

“The Republicans are the party that says government doesn't work. And then they get elected and prove it.”

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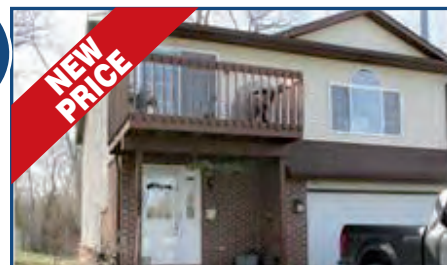
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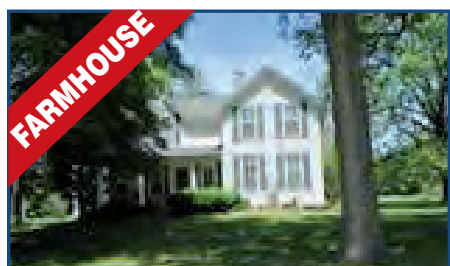
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FENTON
9170 Bennett Lake
Spacious home on just over an acre.
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\$349,900
Call Laura Pennington 248-245-5351



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FENTON
677 Shoreline
Sought after ranch condo in high demand Water's Edge. 2 bedrooms/2 full baths with quite a large dining/living room that is perfect for entertaining. Full basement could be finished for additional living space. First floor laundry. 2 car attached garage. Walking trails close by as well as quaint downtown Fenton.
\$199,900
Call Dean Turkowski 810-845-3770



WATERFORD
7876 Jennifer Agnes
3 Bedroom Home In Desirable Clarkston Schools With Lake Privileges For Maceday Lake. Walkout Family Room With Natural Wood Fireplace. Beautiful Fenced Yard, Great Family Home Located On Dead End Street. Hardwood Floors, Oak Kitchen Cabinets. Extra Refrigerator In Garage Stays.
\$179,900
Call Judy Wright 810-845-4414



FENTON
19107 Hickory Ridge
Contemporary home on 10 heavily wooded acres. Home has gorgeous wood floors throughout the living area. Open floor plan is great for entertaining. 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths on main level with an additional bedroom in the walkout basement. 16x24 Pole barn and 2 car attached garage.
\$360,000
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



DAVISON
9439 Sunrise
Gorgeous newer-built home in the coveted Davison school district with lower Richfield Township taxes! Well cared for home with gorgeous wood floors and private fenced in back yard.. Quiet neighborhood but just off the main drag and close to absolutely everything, including shopping, restaurants and schools.
\$147,900
Call Kevin Usealman 810-965-6552



LINDEN
16379 Linden Road
Newer ranch on 2 acres. Open floor plan with plenty of natural light. 2 bedrooms & 2 full baths on the main floor with a 3rd bedroom (daylight windows) and full bath in the finished lower level. 2 car attached garage AND a 62x26 pole barn. There are 2 bay doors at either end and the middle is insulated, dry walled and heated.
\$279,900
Call Patrik Welty 810-750-2300



FLINT
3298 Lynne
Well built house in beautiful neighborhood!
Room to spread your wings! Offers newer kitchen, baths, roof, furnace and central air. Large fenced yard with mature trees. 3-4 bedrooms, 2½ baths and 1st floor laundry. All appliances included. Great location with easy access to I69.
\$120,000
Call Shelia Rhoades 810-348-7357



FENTON
905 N. Leroy Street
Location! Fenton Ranch, 2 bedroom 1 bath home with basement. Updates include: roof 2008, Windows 2014, Furnace 2010, Hot water heater 2017. Vinyl siding painted in 2015. Blown-in insulation. Trim for windows will be replaced before closing. Nice entrance and floor plan. Home is ready for your personal touch.
\$114,900
Call Laura Pennington 248-245-5351



MUNDY TOWNSHIP
1124 Lakeview Circle
2 bedroom ranch condo with cathedral ceiling and fireplace in living room. Open living/dining/kitchen area. Master bedroom with large walk in closet and full bath, additional 1/2 bath in hallway. First floor laundry, large garage with screened in sitting area and a full basement. Great location near Genesys hospital, I75 & US 23.
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\$65,900
Call Kevin Usealman 810-695-6552

NAKED & AFRAID

■ Fenton native stars in Discovery Channel TV survival challenge airing this Sunday

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Melissa Miller, 28, knew it was going to be tough to survive a three-week survival challenge in an unknown destination, stripped of all her clothing and every bare necessity, including shelter, food and water.

She just didn't know exactly how tough it would be, or whether she would actually survive it.

The premise of "Naked and Afraid," a popular Discovery Channel reality show in its seventh season, is that two complete strangers, usually a man and a woman, are stranded together in a very dangerous, desolate location.

They are without food or water, and they are completely naked. They're provided with only one survival item each and a canvas bag that covers very little of their nudity. The competitors quickly get to know each other and their surroundings, hoping that their instincts, survival skills and "intestinal fortitude" will serve them well.

"About 50 percent make it and 50 percent don't," said Miller, who's sworn to secrecy about the show's location and ending. "These are all extreme survivalists or ex-military. Some have to be medically airlifted out."

See **NAKED** on 12A



(Above) Melissa Miller on "Insertion Day," where she was put into her location to begin her three-week survival challenge. The camera crew was minimal, just one camera man, a sound man and producer. (Below) Miller is making a primitive fish funnel basket with palm branches and tree vines. She caught several fish and was also able to hunt to provide food for herself and her challenge partner.



“Being naked is just so hard. It was the number one thing that made the experience so difficult. It's such a miserable experience.”

Melissa Miller
Fenton High School graduate

PHOTOS:
DISCOVERY
CHANNEL

Further into the challenge, Miller had lost about 20 pounds and ash and dirt were deeply imbedded into her hair and skin.

“NAKED AND AFRAID,” AN EPISODE STARRING LOCAL WOMAN MELISSA MILLER, AIRS THIS SUNDAY, MAY 21 AT 9 P.M. ON THE DISCOVERY CHANNEL.

Miller will be hosting an Episode Viewing Party at 8:30 p.m. at Boston's Restaurant & Sports Bar in Fenton.



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Come *Heller* high water

andrewheller@tctimes.com

Personal polls

Thanks to Trump, politics is all anyone can talk about these days. It's even creeping into our private lives. For instance, when I came home the other day, my wife and three kids were gathered in the family room waiting for me.

"What's going on?" I asked.
 "I think you're going to want to sit for this," the lovely yet formidable Marcia said, looking grave. "The new poll numbers are in."
 "Poll numbers? You mean on Trump?"
 "No, on you."
 "On me? You took a poll on me?"



Andrew Heller
FEATURED COLUMNIST

"Yes, and I'm afraid your approval ratings are at an all-time low."

"All-time low? You mean there have been other polls?"

"Monthly," she said. "Since last year. And as you can see from this

chart, last May you were ..."

"Wait. You have a chart?"

"How else were we going to track your performance? Now as I was saying, last May you were trending pretty well in the 'strongly approve' category, which we attribute to your decision to take us all on vacation."

"But then?"

"But then you can see a downturn starting right about the time you got rid of the unlimited data package for our cell phones."

"But that was costing a fortune!"

"That may be true, but it cost you with the kids. You dropped from a 60 percent approval rating all the way down to 50 on that decision alone."

"Fifty percent?" I protested. "That's outrageous."

"Well, it was a very unpopular decision. But it pales in comparison to the drop you took after January's 'We're not getting another damned dog' fiasco. That dropped you all the way down to an unprecedented 33 percent."

"Well, at least a third of the house still likes what I do."

"Used to, anyway."
 "Used to?"
 "Well, sure. That was January. Since then there have been other declines based on a series of controversial decisions and ... let's just call them family faux pas."
 "Such as?"
 "Well, there was a 5-percent dip when you tried to put the new microwave in."
 "But the install guy wanted \$90 bucks!"
 "And I wanted a cabinet without extra holes in it."
 "I apologized for that!"
 "Sorry don't feed the bulldog," she said. "You also dropped another 3 percent when you forgot to get me chocolates for Mother's Day."
 "You said you were dieting!"
 "And, finally, the dog was definitely not happy about you yelling at him for peeing in the hallway, which cost you another 3 points."
 "Wait a second, the dog votes?"
 "Of course he does. He's part of the family."
 "So do I get to have a poll about you guys?"
 "You can, but I'd advise against it. I'm already hearing rumblings of the I-word."
 "Irritation?"
 "Impeachment."
 Things are worse than I thought. Where's Sean Spicer when you need him?

Opinions offered in Come Heller High Water are the author's alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Tri-County Times or its staff. Email the Andrew at andrewheller@tctimes.com.

Hotlines

Submit at: tctimes.com, call 810-629-9221 or text to 810-771-8398

All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

TO THE LADY who bought the mask and snorkel set on South Port Drive at the garage sale, you dropped one of your fins on the way out. Please come back and get it. We saved it for you.

I WANT TO thank Mr. Wade Pyles for his generous offer of paying the gate fees for the Fenton Relay for Life June 3. What a very generous offer. A big thank you, Mr. Pyles.

QUIT CALLING PUBLIC servants 'elected officials.' They are not officials, they represent the people who elected them, based on their campaign promises. That is how Mr. Trump was elected. He recognizes he is our servant, not our master. Vote on what they do, not what they say.

DON'T YOU THINK people should know how much of their money has already been spent on the Trump/Russia investigation and how much more would be spent if they start all over after find no connection after seven to eight months of looking.

LISTEN TO ANY Democratic liberal broadcast, talk show, celebrity or congressman and you'll see why the country is so divided. Liberals are a cancer on our democracy and our American way of life.

PLEASE EXTEND THE sidewalk from

the Ellen Street campus to West Caroline. Along West Street, there is no sidewalk. Children have to walk in the road and ride their bikes in the road to get to the corner. Cars fly down that section of West.

DOES ANYONE HAVE any good tips for putting in eye drops without cringing? Thank you in advance.

TO THE READER who claimed Fenton has 'not even one restaurant that serves breakfast.' Look around, Fenton has tons of breakfast places. Off the top of my head, there's Mega Coney Island, Fenton Coney Grill, two McDonald's, two Tim Hortons, The Laundry and Crust, and that's just Fenton. Over in Linden there are other places like Shirley's. We had a Bob Evans until it closed recently.

WITH THE CAR accident involving Matt Carrier. If he was thrown from the car, how do they know for sure he was the driver?

JUST A REALITY comment for a union leader that was laid off when a Republican was in office. The reason a Republican was elected was to get you off unemployment and back to work.

YOU HAVE TO admit it Vera, Carol Brady had a lot of help from Alice 'keeping dinner on the table.'

DIDN'T VOTE FOR Michael or Barack yet I prayed for his safety and for God's blessings. No crying or no need for therapy or puppy petting to ease me through my disappointment. The media slinging hate speech hourly is killing America. The spirit of evil reigns over America.

LOOK UP AETNA insurance profits for last year, then decide if you feel sorry for them. Greed.

GREAT ARTICLE ON recycling. City of Fenton only picks up recyclables every other week. My recyclable bin is filled the first week. The remaining recyclables goes into trash bin. Pick up every week and my recycling would double.

TRUMP IS CALLING Comey a grandstander? Really? You've got to be kidding me. Pot calling a kettle black.

IF YOU WANT to talk about embarrassments for presidents, you don't have to look any further than Jimmy Carter or Obama.

See **HOT LINE** throughout Times

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How do you feel about tattoos?

Compiled by Tim Jagielo, media editor

streettalk



"I don't have any; my grand-kids do. If they're unobtrusive, and not in your face, that's fine."

— Sue Florida
Fenton



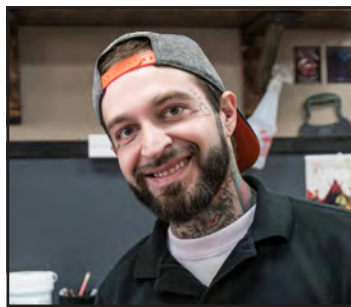
"My husband has one. I'm open to them, but I don't have one."

— Allison Kasten
Rose Township



"I don't have any; my wife does. If I get one, it will have to be something I'll like for a long time."

— Mehdi Jarri
Brighton Township



"I have a whole lot of them. I love 'em; they're definitely a part of my lifestyle."

— Christian North
Holly Township



"I have tattoos. It's become more accepted for jobs, but some places still look down on them. In 10 or 15 years it will be even less."

— Thomas Waskiewicz
Mt. Morris Township

Police&Fire

report

BREAK-IN AT FENTON VIDEO GAME STORE

The Fenton Police Department is investigating a breaking and entering complaint, which occurred at Game Stop in the 15000 block of Silver Parkway. Sgt. Dave Reinfelder said the store's surveillance video showed footage of a white male, wearing all black clothing and carrying a black backpack entering the store through the bathroom. A hole in the bathroom wall, big enough for a person to fit through, adjoins with the empty storefront next to the video game store. The person was seen at 1:40 a.m. on May 12 stealing a PS4, costing \$299 and exiting through the bathroom. The person had access to the empty storefront. If anyone has information, call Fenton police at (810) 629-5311.

BREAK-IN AT FENTON RESTAURANT

The Fenton Police Department is investigating a breaking and entering, which was reported on May 10 from The Barn at Torrey and North roads. The restaurant's surveillance video showed two white males entering the lobby of the restaurant and unsuccessfully attempting to break into the ATM. The pair was then seen walking through the restaurant and into an office. An undisclosed amount of cash was taken, as well as 10 bottles of liquor. Both suspects were wearing sweatshirt hoodies and gloves. Police noticed pry marks on the front door. If anyone has information, call Fenton police at (810) 629-5311.

SUSPICIOUS MAN IN FENTON TOWNSHIP

On Monday, May 8, deputies with the Genesee County Sheriff's Office responded to a suspicious situation in the 14000 block of Fenton Road in Fenton Township. An 8-year-old boy reported that an unknown older male walked by him while he was playing in his yard and asked him what his favorite kind of cake was. The child could not provide a physical description of the suspect and did not see any vehicles. This incident remains under investigation.

Canine playground closer to reality

■ Two-acre dog park is pet project of three municipalities

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

The Thompson Road Regional Dog Park committee is getting closer to its goal of raising enough money to complete phase one of the park after a fundraiser at Fenton Winery and Brewery May 18.

"I think it was successful," said park organizer and Fenton City Councilwoman Nancy Draves. Attendees enjoyed wine and beer tasting, and the company of their furry friends. Three people won gift baskets brought by Animal Health Clinic in a raffle.

The two-acre dog park, part of a 36-acre park is located on Thompson Road, just east of Wiggins Road.

The overall park will include baseball diamonds and soccer fields. The Fenton Township Board of Trustees unanimously voted to approve the park in October 2015.

The event on Thursday featured music, wine and beer tasting, raffle prizes, and an opportunity to contribute and learn more about the park.

"It was fun. I think everyone enjoyed it. The music was great. It was so windy," she said. There were some people from Grand Blanc at the event, that said they were excited about the Thompson Road park because the one in grand Blanc charges a fee.

"We don't charge. We're going strictly on donations," she said. Draves doesn't know exactly how much they raised, but she said she got about 12 or 13 donations over \$100, and that was just her amount. "It wasn't a bust by any means. And we're getting the word out," Draves said.

Raising enough money for phase one has taken some time, but organizers are determined. Organizer Amy Krug said the dog park committee figured out their

initial budget for phase one is \$25,000. Phase one includes the road, parking lot, fencing, a well, and a few other basics necessary for a park.

They're currently focused on raising the last \$8,000.

"The sooner that we have the money in hand, the sooner that we're able to get started on things," Krug said. "We want to have money in hand before we put out expenditures of this amount."

Once enough money is raised for phase one, construction can start and the park will open. Phase two includes benches and other amenities.

To come up with the money, they're looking for sponsors to donate to their 101 Donations campaign. On Wednesday, Krug said they needed about 100 more donations of \$100 to meet their goal for the park.

"So often I know you go to event and the sponsorships are so large, but \$100, that's something that most people can manage, especially for something that will be significant," Krug said.

Krug commended the work done by the three municipalities — Fenton Township, Fenton, and Linden — working to make the park a reality.

"We love that this is a tri-municipality thing," she said. "We're really proud of the effort, we're proud this is something we'll be able to bring to our community."

To donate, go to the dog park website at trrdogpark.com, or the Thompson Road Regional Dog Park Facebook page. Krug said donations are tax deductible.

People who wish to donate can also email Nancy Draves at draves.nancy@yahoo.com, or call her at 810-730-2830.

75 MPH

Continued from Front Page

None of the higher speeds are allowed in metropolitan areas or anywhere in southern Michigan, according to MDOT.

Public Act 445, passed by the state legislature in late 2016, tasked MDOT and the Michigan State Police with increasing speed limits on some state highways and freeways based on 85th percentile speeds (the speed at or below which 85 percent of traffic is moving), and the results of engineering and safety studies.

The law requires these modified speed limits be in place prior to Jan. 5, 2018.

Police&Fire

report

EQUIPMENT STOLEN FROM HORREL ROAD HOME

The Genesee County Sheriff's Office received a larceny of construction and recreational equipment complaint in the 13000 block of Horrell Road in Fenton Township on Monday, May 15. A 46-year-old Fenton Township man reported an unknown person(s) stole construction equipment, tools, and bikes from his residence he is currently remodeling. This incident is currently under investigation.



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By: Dr. Steven Sulfaro

6 MONTH DENTAL VISIT

Regular dental visits every 6 months is very important to help ensure the health of your teeth and gums. There are two parts to a regular dental visit. One part is the check-up (examination) which includes any recommended x-rays and the other is the dental cleaning. During the examination I assess the condition of each tooth checking for decay, defective and worn-out restorations, enamel defects and fractures then evaluate the fit and functioning of any dental appliances (dentures or partials). As part of the examination process I also carefully evaluate the soft tissues of the mouth. Soft tissues include the lips, cheeks, gums, palate, floor of the mouth, throat, and tongue. This very important step is considered an oral cancer screening examination where early detection can be life saving. I carefully read and review any x-rays that are taken to evaluate and ensure the internal health of the teeth and jaws. The other important part of the 6 month dental visit is the dental cleaning, also called the prophylaxis. Brushing and flossing help clean plaque from your teeth, but you can't remove tartar, also called calculus at home. During the dental cleaning the dental hygienist uses an assortment of special instruments to carefully remove the deposits of tartar that have built up on the teeth over time. If not removed, plaque and calculus can lead to the development of gum disease which is the number one cause of tooth loss in adults. The teeth are then polished which helps to remove built up and stains on the teeth. Finally, the hygienist flosses all the teeth and goes over any special home-care advice and instructions to help better maintain the teeth between 6 month dental visits.

Your teeth are meant to last your whole life.

Regular 6 month dental visits are an important, key element in helping you to have a beautiful and healthy smile that lasts a life-time.

I welcome your questions and comments.
Feel free to e-mail me drsulfaro@comcast.net



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BIG BOX STORES

Continued from Front Page

The brief was prepared and filed by Steve Schultz' law firm of Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC, on March 29. Schultz is Fenton City's attorney.

"There have been a series of cases over the last several years looking at the question of what should be the proper valuation for giant big box stores, large warehouse type stores," said Schultz.

"There has been a real significant disagreement over how these properties should be valued," he said. There have been cases in the Michigan Tax Tribunal and Court of Appeals. However, the Michigan Supreme Court has agreed to hear a case out of Escanaba, in Menard, Inc. v. City of Escanaba.

On May 26, the Michigan Court of Appeals issued Menard, Inc. v. Escanaba, 315 Mich App 512 (2016), reversing the opinion by the Michigan Tax Tribunal. Menard's then filed to appeal to the Supreme Court.

"When a case like that gets to the Michigan Supreme Court, other interested parties are sometimes asked if they can file a legal brief to weigh in on the issue the court is considering," said Schultz.

"This particular case is very important to cities and townships. They are losing a lot of money on a theory that makes no sense to anyone other than a couple of judges on the Tax Tribunal."

The "Dark Store theory" of property tax assessment is looming large over communities throughout the state.

According to the Michigan Municipal League (MML), the Dark Store theory is a "tax loophole scheme" being used by big box retailers to lower the amount they pay in property taxes.

Those retailers, including Meijer, Lowe's, Target, Kohl's, Menards, IKEA, Wal-Mart and The Home Depot across Michigan are arguing that the market value of their operating store should be based on the sales of similar size "comparable" properties that are vacant and abandoned, and may not even be located in Michigan.

For example, a fully operational store, like a new Super Walmart gets to pay the same property taxes as a closed, empty and "dark" Walmart down the street, and it's what is starting to happen more and more frequently.

The MML claims the political appointees on the Michigan Tax Tribunal have upheld this "Dark Store theory" and cut property tax assessments in some cases by as much as 50 percent — impacting local revenues and subsequently local

Fenton 'big box' retailer taxes

SUMMER TAXES	HOME DEPOT	(built in 2006) TARGET	(closed 12/2016) WALMART	KMART	TOTAL
2016	99,615	109,764	215,544	112,245	537,168
2015	100,814	111,085	219,168	113,596	544,663
2014	98,452	108,483	279,280	110,935	597,150
2013	96,471	106,300	273,753	108,703	585,227
2012	94,040	103,621	266,955	105,964	570,580
2011	225,253	189,081	260,040	121,277	795,651
2010	225,705	184,475	248,507	118,323	777,010
2009	225,024	183,919	235,682	117,966	762,591
2008	212,946	241,984	225,057	172,029	852,016
2007	207,707	236,031	219,629	167,797	831,164
2006	151,931	65,739	161,148	122,738	501,556
TOTAL	\$1,737,958	\$1,640,482	\$2,604,763	\$1,371,573	\$7,354,776

All summer taxes shown above have been paid.

Winter taxes are collected by the city of Fenton but are not for use by the city.

These funds pay for county millages such as library, paramedics, MTA, airport, etc.

Source: cityoffenton.org on 5-17-2017

Municipalities submitting brief to Supreme Court

Cities of: Otsego, Coldwater, Sault Sainte Marie, Fenton, Novi, East Lansing, Kentwood, Lowell, Norton Shores, Auburn Hills, Reed City, Grand Haven, Sturgis, Three Rivers, Harper Woods and Allen Park

Village of: Dundee

Charter townships of: Dewitt, Breitung, Clinton, Delta, Windsor, Grand Blanc, Meridian, Oshtemo, Plainfield, Marquette and Orion

Township of: Hartland

Counties of: Dickinson, Eaton and Ingham

ing communities, Fenton's share was just under \$400. It was a very nominal cost when shared."

Schultz said the Dark Store theory is having a very big impact in that what these large stores are paying in taxes has gone down dramatically.

"Fenton is affected by this dispute just like everyone else," he said.

The big box stores in Fenton are paying significantly lower taxes now than they were over the past 10 years (see sidebar). Is this due to the Dark Store theory or did property values go down during the last recession?

"It's a little bit of both," Schultz said. "The great recession of 2008 saw property values generally declining in 2009, 2010 and 2011. On top of that, you saw this Dark Store theory reducing the values even further."

On whether big box stores are required to go through the local Board of Review before approaching the Michigan Tax Tribunal for relief, Schultz said "it depends on the type of property."

Schultz said this is going to take "a little bit of time" to get through the Michigan Supreme Court. The next step is for the Supreme Court to schedule oral arguments with Menards and Escanaba, and all the actual communities named in the brief.

"We (Fenton) are an invited guest to offer whatever input we have to the court," he said. "Some months after that the Supreme Court will make a decision," said Schultz.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

YESTERDAY, ICE AGENTS arrested 1,038 illegal criminals across the country. Illegal immigrants who are wanted for murder, robberies, rapes, and gang related activity. But of course, the Democrats are probably more concerned with these criminals' rights.

■■■■
LEAVE IT TO conservatives to harp on something that happened nearly 20 years ago. Clinton was nearly 20 years ago. Trump is current. He's a current womanizer. Maybe you can bring up Jefferson, we can talk about him, too.

■■■■
ABOUT THE RESTAURANTS and breakfast. There's Leo's, Fenton Coney Island, they serve breakfast. There's Mega, they serve a good breakfast, and if you lucky, you can get maybe some beer nuts and a shot of whiskey at Walden's early in the morning. Take your choice.

■■■■



ASK THE MECHANIC

Chris Wilkinson,
Certified Mechanic

Q: I have a 1999 Lincoln Continental that will not start. I purchased it from a friend of mine and he said it just wouldn't start one day. I've talked with a mechanic on this and have tried several things, but I quit getting replies so I am asking here. Here is what I know: It will run with ether/gas in the intake, but will NOT run on its own fuel. It gets fuel to the fuel rail, but will not run. I've checked the following: PCM relay has power at 85 and 30, 86 and 87 are grounded. Pin 55 at the PCM plug is getting power. Injectors are getting power, but won't ground. No blown fuses in the under dash fuse box or the engine compartment fuse box. There is power to the diode for the PCM. The Security light flashes when key is off, but when it is cranking it goes away. The Check engine light does not come on at all, but was told by several people it may be a blown bulb in the dash. I've checked for good grounds near the fusebox and the battery. Also, the dash lights do not come on other than the battery/oil pressure light when the key is on. It will not light up the dash lights even if you adjust the dimmer switch. I'm not sure if this is related, if not I can tackle that problem at a later time. Any information that you can give me would be appreciated. - Andy

A: Andy, It sounds like you either have a bad PCM or a faulty signal going to the PCM. The first thing you need to do is to try and communicate with the PCM using a scan tool check for trouble codes. Then watch for cranking RPM on your scan tool. If you have the proper scan tool you can watch for injector pulse width as well. If you do not see any cranking RPM, then I suspect a bad crank sensor. There is a diagnostic test that you can do if you have the right tools. However, to be honest with you though this sounds like a job for a repair shop.

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Actor Michael Rennie as "Klaatu" in the 1951 film, "The Day the Earth Stood Still."

'THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL'

The science fiction film, "The Day the Earth Stood Still," was released in September of 1951, nearly 66 years ago. It involves an alien named Klaatu, whose arrival on earth is prefaced with a complete shutdown of all electronics, like an Electronic Magnetic Pulse (EMP) attack.

After Klaatu has their attention, he has a strong message for the people of Earth. Here is what he said to the people:

"I am leaving soon, and you will forgive me if I speak bluntly. The universe grows smaller every day, and the threat of aggression by any group, anywhere, can no longer be tolerated.

"There must be security for all, or no one is secure. Now, this does not mean giving up any freedom, except the freedom to act irresponsibly. Your ancestors knew this when they made laws to govern themselves and hired policemen to enforce them.

"We, of the other planets, have long accepted this principle. We have an organization for the mutual protection of all planets and for the complete elimination of aggression.

"The test of any such higher authority is, of course, the police force that supports it. For our policemen, we created a race of robots. Their function is to patrol the planets in spaceships like this one and preserve the peace. In matters of aggression, we have given them absolute power over us. This power cannot be revoked. At the first sign of violence, they act automatically against the aggressor. The penalty for provoking their action is too terrible to risk. The result is, we live in peace, without arms or armies, secure in the knowledge that we are free from aggression and war. Free to pursue more... profitable enterprises.

"Now, we do not pretend to have achieved perfection, but we do have a system, and it works. I came here to give you these facts. It is no concern of ours how you run your own planet, but if you threaten to extend your violence, this Earth of yours will be reduced to a burned-out cinder. Your choice is simple: join us and live in peace, or pursue your present course and face obliteration. We shall be waiting for your answer. The decision rests with you."

Experts say EMP attack could be on horizon

■ Could we survive with no electronics?

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

A few months ago, most Americans would not have thought it possible to fear something that could wipe out humanity.

Just turning on the TV news and seeing what's going on in this country and the world today is enough to make a person wonder how safe we really are.

Dave Hodges, of The Common Sense Show (thecommonsenseshow.com), painted a very frightening picture of what would happen during and after an Electronic Magnetic Pulse (EMP) attack.

In the article called "What Happens During an EMP Attack. Can You survive?" published in September 2016, before the presidential election, Hodges details the dangers associated with an EMP attack.

He said top scientists and knowledgeable politicians tell us that it would cost the nation alone up to \$2 trillion in the first year. It could take four to 10 years to recover and would fatally impact 90 percent of the U.S. population, meaning widespread starvation and death.

When the moment of the EMP attack occurs, what will America look like a few seconds later?

Transportation

In one of the most dramatic effects, airplanes would fall from the skies. Untold thousands of people would immediately be plunged to their deaths.

Most automobiles will not work unless they have all pre-electrical parts. Even then, how long would gasoline be available? Many people on the various subways, would be trapped depending on the time that an electromagnetic pulse would be released.

Hospitals

America would see catastrophic conditions immediately take place in our hospitals and convalescent centers. Within a few days, old age homes would lack the resources and services of the staff to help preserve the lives of those who are virtually helpless.

Patients on the operating table would stand a good chance of not surviving. Hospital backup generating systems would be rendered unusable.

Food and water would become a scarce resource. People would not be able to get their life-sustaining medications and services, most of which are electrically powered.

What is an EMP?

An EMP is a burst of electromagnetic radiation sent flying through the atmosphere by a nuclear or thermonuclear explosion. This radiation gradually fizzles out, but electrical objects near the detonation can suffer effects ranging from simply being turned off to having their circuitry shorted out.

Source: Popularmechanics.com

WWW.OFFTHEGRIDNEWS.COM

In the event of an electronic magnetic pulse attack, all electronics within a certain range would be disabled causing widespread problems.

Schools and Children

Another tragic development arising from an EMP attack would be the fate of school-children geographically isolated from their parents who have already commuted to work. Reuniting parents and their children would be next to impossible for the majority of Americans who have a 30-minute commute or more to work (20 miles).

If you were a teacher, how long would you stay on the job and ignore the welfare of your own family? Getting home and reuniting with family will be problematic.

Communications

Your cell phones, your landlines, text, Twitter, emails and faxes will not work. Nearly all broadcast stations, especially television stations, would go off the air. Due to the high level of computerized automation, the equipment in most radio and television studios would be so completely destroyed that

most commercial stations would be damaged beyond repair.

When America emerges from the event, the NSA police state surveillance grid would be permanently in place for the extreme martial law dictatorship that will follow.

Water Borne Diseases

The greatest threat to human survival in the aftermath of an EMP attack is the public's availability to obtain clean drinking water. In 2010, when Haiti was hit by a major earthquake, which killed over 200,000 people, the misery did not stop with the survivors. Six weeks following the earthquake, Haiti announced its first cholera outbreak in over a century. The cholera outbreak went on to claim 8,000 more lives. This is what precisely would happen in most areas following an EMP

See EMP on 14A



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Watch Andy answer these questions & more online at www.AndyAlger.com

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Put up a parking lot ...

Fenton — The demolition of 206 E. Caroline began on Monday, May 15. The condemned old house, located next to the Fenton Jack R. Winegarden Library, was taken down to clear the way for a parking lot. For several years in the early 1990s, the building housed a daycare and preschool center called The Carousel Club. It later housed a Montessori school. Opening Caroline Street at South LeRoy Street is part of the downtown revitalization project. Once complete, motorists can turn east onto Caroline and drive straight through to the library or continue on to other destinations.

Police&Fire report

FENTON TOWNSHIP TEEN ARRESTED FOR ASSAULT

The Genesee County Sheriff's office is investigating a domestic assault reported from the 4100 block of Minnetonka Drive in Fenton Township. On Saturday, May 13, a 17-year-old Fenton Township male was arrested for allegedly assaulting his 56-year-old mother, and resisting and obstructing police. The suspect is being held in the Genesee County Jail awaiting arraignment for domestic violence, resisting and obstructing police, and interfering with an electronic communications (preventing someone from calling 911 for assistance).

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Kenneth Temrowski license suspended for one year

By Vera Hogan

vhogan@tctimes.com; 810-433-6823

Two separate complaints were filed in August of 2016, charging Kenneth D. Temrowski of Temrowski Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services, with failure to maintain accurate books and records, failure to have an escrow agreement in effect at all times, and incompetence in the practice of mortuary science, among other allegations.

Temrowski said he was misled by an attorney whom he trusted.

"I had a bad engagement with an attorney that I took the brunt of," he said. "He gave me extremely bad advice. He assured me everything was in order."

The orders, issued by the Michigan Board of Mortuary Science, were signed on April 5 and became effective 30 days later, on May 5.

As a result, two separate stipulations include a one-year suspension of Kenneth Temrowski's mortuary science license and fines totaling \$9,000 (\$4,500 for each complaint number) against both Temrowski and the funeral home, to be paid by July 5.

"Becca is a licensed funeral director," said Kenneth of his wife. "We will continue to operate our daily business. No money was ever missing, it was simply not deposited in a bona fide escrow account, per state regulations. We fixed it immediately."

According to the two complaints, which were obtained from the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs via the Freedom of Information Act, these actions stem from allegations that from December 2012 through December 2015, the funeral home received more than \$2.6 million in prepaid funeral contracts, designated burial space, through an agent as a result of estate planning seminars presented by an attorney.

As of Dec. 31, 2015 none of these contracts were fulfilled, however, 48 of them were allegedly refunded for a total of \$978,358.

Once the contracts were entered into they were allegedly deposited to the attorney's client trust account. State regulations state that the \$2.6 million was to have been deposited into an authorized escrow account within 30 days.

Both the state and Temrowski have stipulated that the facts alleged in the formal complaints are true and violate several sections of the Occupational Code, Prepaid Act and Michigan Administrative Code.

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Tattoos — what you need to know

■ Ink on, ink off — all in a day's work for artists and physicians

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

The saying goes — your body is a temple, so why not decorate the walls?

Scores of people follow that philosophy by getting tattoos. According to statisticbrain.com, approximately 14 percent of Americans have at least one tattoo, which is about 45 million. Approximately 38 percent of adults ages 18-40 have at least one tattoo.

Before entering a shop, Christian North, a tattoo artist for four years at Fenton Tattoo and Piercing, said, "They have to know what kind of tattoo they want, the style, like realistic, new school, or traditional."

Along with style, there are different kinds of tattoos, from simple black ink, to color, to white ink, to glow-in-the-dark, and more recently, sound wave tattoos. According to skin-motion.com, people can get a sound wave tattoo in a certain pattern. When scanned with an app on their smartphone or tablet, it plays the sound.

North said to be familiar with your artist's work and pick the artist based on the style of tattoo you want.

"Everyone specializes in something different," he said.

For a good tattoo, expect to pay about \$100 an hour. Many establishments have a minimum fee. Be wary of places that do tattoos for cheap.

"Do research on the artist and check out that shop, if it's clean, are you sure it's a reputable shop?" he said.

After you get your tattoo, you have to take care of it while it scabs and heals. You can use Aquaphor, a gel that helps provide moisture and prevents infections as your tattoo heals. North said to apply it a few times every day for two to three days after. There's also Saniderm, a breathable medical bandage, that you can wear for a few days.

Getting a tattoo is painful. North said places with a lot of nerve endings hurt the most, like your stomach, neck, back, hands and feet.

Who handles the pain better — women or men?

WATCH THE VIDEO

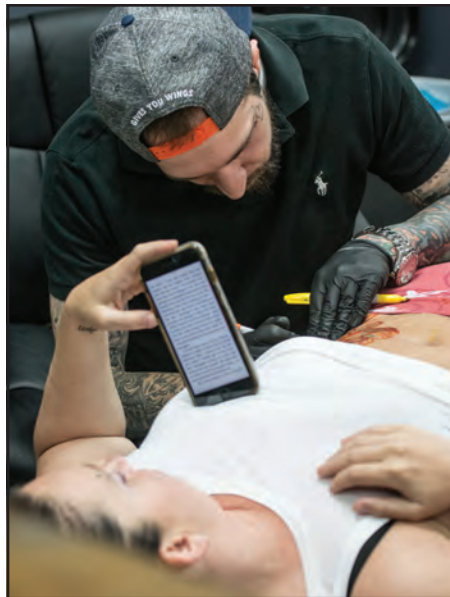


AT TCTIMES.COM WITH THIS STORY



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Tattoo artist Christian North of Holly Township has been collecting tattoos since he was 19. Now 26, he said he has tattoos everywhere. He enjoys giving them, and collecting them himself.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Dana Ernst of Auburn Hills reads while Christian North draws a new design on her abdomen. A mother of three, she wants a large piece to cover her "tiger stripes."

"Girls handle the pain better," North said. "I tattoo mostly girls and they do awesome. Guys are big babies."

About 17 percent of people regret their tattoo, according to statisticbrain.com. That's where tattoo removal services come in. Skin and Vein Center in Fenton offers the service.

Dr. Eric Seiger has been doing tattoo

removal at the center for about 17 years. He said they do tattoo removals every day.

They use PicoSure, a Federal Drug Administration-approved laser technology, that rapidly fires lasers into the skin.

"It's attracted to pigments and it blows it into tiny little pieces,"

Seiger said. "So your body can now take and engulf the pigment and your immune system takes it away. It takes it from a rock under the skin to little pieces of sand so your body can clear it out."

“Girls handle the pain better.”

Christian North
Fenton Tattoo and Piercing tattoo artist

FREEDOM INK

Dr. Eric Seiger of Skin and Vein Center in Fenton started Freedom Ink, an organization that does free tattoo removal for past gang members who are now committed to a gang-free life.

"I decided I wanted to help give back to the community," he said. Now, people doing their residencies in dermatology at a local university do these tattoo removals twice a month at the Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation in Detroit.

The procedure hurts, but they do things to help with the pain, like use air conditioning, ice, and occasionally numbing clients. It can take anywhere from one minute to 40 minutes depending on the size of the tattoo.

"We do it every day. All day we're taking off tattoos. There are a lot of tattoo regrets," he said. Commonly removed tattoos include past significant others' names and misspelled words.

"I've seen things spelled wrong, tattoos on the face, people's ex's names that they hate, I've seen funny pictures," he said. "They say 'I was 17 and stupid.' They have kids and they don't want to be represented that way, or they got a job."

Treatments start at \$49. Seiger said it takes between four and 10 sessions to get rid of one tattoo. "That's just the nature of the ink. It's in there pretty good. In the past, it used to take six to 20 treatments," he said. He can also surgically cut off the tattoo if it's small enough.

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15225 LONGFELLOW DR, BYRON

MYERS LAKE \$293,900

54' frontage on All Sports Myers Lake. 2370 SF, 4 BDR & 2.5 BA. Open floor plan, great natural light, exposed beams, fireplace and more. Formal dining room, office, lots of storage space, large multi level decking and 40x22 pole barn and much more.

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6382 COOK RD, SWARTZ CREEK

ACREAGE \$499,999

3162 SF, 3 BDR & 3 BA. One of a kind, true log home, 52 acres filled with wildlife and your own private vineyard. Groomed trails for your riding pleasure and 4 out buildings. Peaceful, tranquil and a life style all its own. Exposed logs, stone fireplace and hardwood floors, everything about this home says WOW!



OPEN SUNDAY 1-3



2208 ISLAND SHORE DR, FENTON

LAKE FENTON \$1,200,000

Stunning home with over 350' frontage on All Sports Lake Fenton. 3485 SF, 3 BDR & 2.5 BA. Soaring ceilings, great natural light, spectacular views, open floor plan, character, charm and luxury. 3 car attached garage, in ground pool, outdoor kitchen and much more.



OPEN SUNDAY 1-3



9720 BURNING TREE DR, GRAND BLANC

WARWICK HILLS \$449,999

4090 SF, 4 BDR & 3.5 BA all on the 5th Tee of Warwick Hills Golf Course. Stunning gourmet kitchen with high end finishes, hardwood floors, granite counters, lots of cabinet space and fireplace. Open floor plan, grand entry, natural light, and much more.

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3



2393 DAVIS RD, FENTON

LAKE FENTON \$749,999

72' frontage on All Sports Lake Fenton, 5400 SF, 4 BDR & 3.5 BA. Open floor plan w/ fantastic views. Kitchen features breakfast nook, granite counters, snack bar, lots of cabinet and counter space. Crown molding, exposed beams, finished walkout and so much more.



OPEN SUNDAY 1-3



6200 BULLARD RD, FENTON

LAKE TYRONE \$289,999

50' frontage on private All Sports Tyrone Lake. 1902 SF, 3 BDR & 2 BA. Large kitchen and dining area. Living room features cathedral ceilings, stone fireplace, and great natural light. Beautiful lot with area to play, attached garage and large deck for entertaining.



OPEN SUNDAY 1-3



16486 WHITEHEAD DR, LINDEN

LOBDELL LAKE \$354,999

94' Frontage on All Sports Lobdell Lake. Fantastic ranch home with 2040 SF of finished living space, 2 BDR and 2 BA. Fantastic views of the lake, beautiful floors throughout and vaulted ceilings. Gorgeous wrap around deck, patio, 2 car garage and more.

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3



6326 PRAIRIE DUNES DR, GRAND BLANC

GRAND RESERVE \$274,999

1660 SF, 2 BDR & 2 BA. Gorgeous kitchen features hardwood floors, pantry, tile back splash, lots of cabinet and counter space. Open floor plan, beautifully decorated, fireplace and great natural light. Spacious master suite, full basement and 2 car attached garage. Enjoy resort-style living at Del Webb's Grand Reserve!

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3



2718 PEPPER CT, HARTLAND

ACREAGE \$224,999

Adorable home on over 1.5 acres. 1872 SF, 4 BDR & 2 BA. Great kitchen, open floor plan with spacious formal dining room and Florida room with great natural light. Living room features beautiful floors and fireplace. Nice deck with pool and more.



10079 GOLFSIDE, GRAND BLANC

WOODFIELD \$439,999

5407 SF, 3 BDR & 4.5 BA. Gorgeous kitchen with island, granite counters, hardwood floors, breakfast nook and pantry. Full finished walkout basement with bar and stone fireplace. Large deck and patio overlooking the pond.



8211 PINE HOLLOW TRL, GRAND BLANC

WOODS OF PINE HOLLOW \$1,075,000

Stunning home, never occupied, in highly sought after Pine Hollow. 8000 SF of finished living space, 6 BDR & 6 full bathrooms & 3 half bathrooms. Every detail of this home is exquisite, gourmet kitchen, hand crafted cherry cabinetry throughout, luxury at every turn.



6263 CANTER CREEK, GRAND BLANC

PINE HOLLOW ESTATES \$1,750,000

Over 10,000 SF of Luxury Living! 5 BDR, 8 BA, nestled on 2.25 acres with large pond and beautiful water views. Fantastic home for entertaining inside and out. 2 gourmet kitchens, 3 spiral staircases, theater room, wine cellar, 2 laundry rooms, 2 master suites, dog bath, heated floors, heated drive way.



3654 WOODLAND DR, METAMORA

LAKE LAPEER \$589,999

91' frontage on Lake Lapeer, 4899 SF, 5 BDR & 4 BA. Kitchen features hardwood floors and large island, snack bar and pantry. Living room with cathedral ceilings, floor to ceiling stone fireplace, beautiful view of the lake. Full finished basement, 4 car garage, large deck and patio.



PONEMAH DR, LINDEN

LAKE PONEMAH \$30,000 - \$100,000

Beautiful build able lots in Cottage Cove development. Deeded dock on All Sports Lake Ponemah, enjoy this 378 acre lake that connects to Tupper Lake and Squaw Lake. Great fishing, boating and ice skating in the winter. Close to shopping and expressways.



18201 BERKSHIRE DR, GREGORY

ACREAGE \$174,999

Cute ranch home, 2016 SF of finished living space, 4 BDR & 2 BA, all on over 1 acre. Large kitchen with pantry, dining area, lots of cabinet and counter space. Living room with wood burner. Full finished basement with 4th bedroom, family room area, full bathroom and lots of storage.



11482 BAY OF FIRTH BLVD, FENTON

MARL LAKE \$434,999

108FT of frontage on private All Sports Marl Lake. 3081 SF, 3 BDR & 3.5 BA plus a bonus room that could be a 4th BDR. Full finished walkout basement. 2 car attached garage, plus an additional 2+ car garage. Over 1.5 acres of waterfront property!



6239 CANTER CREEK, GRAND BLANC

PINE HOLLOW ESTATES \$1,175,000

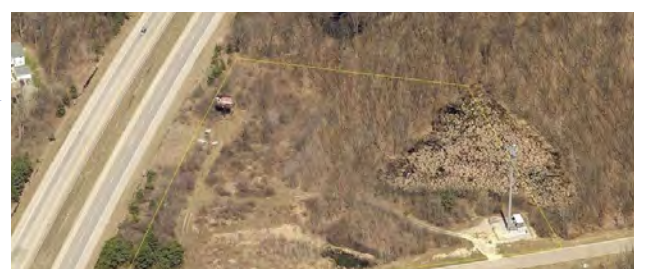
Stunning Pine Hollow Manor featuring 7900+ SF with finished walkout. Built 2002 at a cost of 2.5+ million, 5 BDR and 7 BA, home boasts luxury! Nestled on lavish grounds providing pure privacy. Marble floors, granite, cherry, Swarovski Crystal, Enkeboll trim, 24k Gold fixtures, murals and breathtaking kitchen.



1274 S HOLLY RD, FENTON

ACREAGE \$525,000

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7334 GRAND PARKWAY

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WHAT YOU MISSED

in the

MIDWEEK TIMES

Compiled by Vera Hogan

The following are stories you may have missed in the **Wednesday, May 17, Midweek Times**. To subscribe and receive both the Midweek and Sunday Weekend editions, please call (810) 629-8282.

Township clerk: 'The federal government still looks at it as an illegal drug'

The Fenton Township Board of Trustees is considering repeal of marijuana ordinance.



Tobacco 21 fight fans flames in Genesee County

Ordinance enforcement suspended until May 22, and again until June 19 when Circuit Court Judge Judith Fullerton will hear the case.

Alcohol likely a factor in deadly crash

Five people killed, three critically injured, MSP investigation continues.

NAKED

Continued from Page 3A

TV viewers won't know the outcome until they watch Miller and her male counterpart on the show, debuting this Sunday, May 21 at 9 p.m. She'll be hosting an Episode-Viewing Party beginning at 8:30 p.m. at Boston's Restaurant & Sports Bar in Fenton.

"I'm really nervous about how I'll be portrayed," admitted Miller. "It's terrifying."

But that's not nearly as scary as shedding clothes for the first time on the show. "I don't even like wearing a bathing suit," she said. "Getting nude was really scary."

But she found out right away that being nude in the rainforest wasn't provocative or sexual. It was all about survival.

"Being naked is just so hard," said Miller. "It was the number one thing that made the experience so difficult. It's such a miserable experience. You're exposed to the sun, bugs, thorns and flesh-eating parasites in a tropical rainforest where the bugs were relentless."

After the first day of the challenge, you don't even care that you're nude, according to Miller.

"Your body goes into full survival mode. You're hungry and dehydrated. You have to get all your own food and water, make a fire. I hunted, fished and foraged for food. Physically and mentally, it was definitely the hardest thing I've ever done."

It's truly the epitome of living in the

“There’s something about this, overcoming the discomfort. It changed me for the better. It taught me about myself and made me grateful for the tiniest thing.”

Melissa Miller
Fenton High School graduate



PHOTOS: DISCOVERY CHANNEL

Miller walked around her location the night before the challenge began, and befriended this tail whip scorpion. "He looks scary, but doesn't bite," said Miller.

moment, day by day, she said. "Time does not exist; it's sunup to sundown. You focus all your energy on survival. By the end, you become very animalistic. Your senses become very sharp. You learn to

embrace the misery and fall in love with the environment. The human body is so amazing. We can adapt so fast. After awhile, you start to get in the groove and learn what to do."

It was seven days before she got to eat anything, she said. "I lost 20 pounds, and I was already thin before. I looked

emaciated."

She admits to having some drama with her TV reality partner. "He was a solo-type person. There was definitely drama and disagreements, but in the end, we had such respect for each other. We will be lifelong friends."

Miller, the daughter of Bill and Maggie Miller of Argentine Township, graduated from Fenton High School in 2007. She has always been a lover of the outdoors and has been into survival tactics in the past few years.

In her real life, Miller is an environmen-



PHOTO COURTESY OF MELISSA MILLER

After the challenge Miller's feet were punctured by thorns and she sustained many wounds, many of which have left scars.

DO CONTESTANTS ON NAKED AND AFRAID GET PAID FOR THEIR MISERY?

According to their contract outlined on Starcasm.com, successful participants each receive a \$5,000 Grand Prize.

tal educator at For-Mar Nature Preserve in Burton. Later this summer, she'll be teaching survival in the French Alpine Mountains, at the border of France and Switzerland. She'll also be working for a survival school, producing survival tutorials on YouTube.

"There's something about this, overcoming the discomfort," said Miller. "I had hundreds of thorns on my feet, scars from the bug bites and an open wound for three weeks. But I would do it all again if I'm asked. It changed me for the better. It taught me about myself and made me grateful for the tiniest thing. I missed my bed, a sheet over my body at night."

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Wigs for Kids

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Valentina Dedivanaj, 13, a student at Fenton's AGS Middle School, donated 24 inches of hair to Wigs for Kids, a non-profit organization that provides wigs for children affected by chemotherapy, alopecia, burns and other medical conditions that causes hair loss. This was Valentina's first hair cut.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Smitty's Exit 80 Sunoco sold a winning \$4.4-million classic lotto ticket on Wednesday, May 17. As of press time, late Friday afternoon, the winner had not yet come forward.

WINNER

Continued from Front Page

"We looked it up right on the machine and it's at the bottom of the ticket," said Smitty. "It's pretty exciting. Something like this happens few and far between. I got the chills as soon as I heard."

Does he have any idea who might have bought the winning ticket? "I have no clue," said Smitty. "As of yet, it's unclaimed. You sell tickets all week for the drawing. We've got a lot of regulars who play their regular numbers."

What's most exciting to Smitty is the thought that someone local may have won the money. He'll be a winner too, having sold the winning ticket, but it's not nearly as big a win as it used to be.

Smitty's Exit 80 will be getting \$5,000 from the Michigan Lottery Commission when the winning ticket is claimed. "It used to be a percentage of the win, and now it's a straight \$5,000," said Smitty. "I'm not going to whine."

It's not about the money for me. Those are the rules and we play by them."

He admits that he'll get a lot of business out of having sold a winning ticket. "They'll be bringing out a banner for my store," he said.

This is the closest he's ever been to a lottery win at Smitty's Exit 80. "We had a guy a couple years ago who won \$100,000 and he was a regular Lottery customer at my store. This time, though, he had bought his ticket down by his work."

Smitty's glad his luck came through

this time, and he's excited about finding out the winner. "There's a lot of excitement in the store," he said. "People are coming in all the time asking, 'hey, do you know who it is?'"

SUMMARY

■ Smitty's Exit 80 in Fenton sold the winning Michigan Lottery ticket for \$4.4 million and is hoping the winner will come forward soon.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | TIM JAGIELO

Smitty's Exit 80 Sunoco also sells scratch-off instant win lotto games.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

IT'S INTERESTING HOW you can learn a few scientific facts, or maybe Trump facts, and become an expert. Whereas if you went to a university and learned about a subject, maybe you'd know what you're talking about.

THE LAST TIME the earth was destroyed, it was by water. A flood. Then we learn that the next time it happens, it will be by fire. Global warming? Getting warmer?

IF YOU NEED to find a home for your chickens, I have room in my oven? That's not the point. It's Fenton Township taking away your rights to do what you want on your own property.

YOU IDIOTS KEEP beating the drum about illegal immigrants killing someone every once in a while, what about all the legal immigrants or Americans killing Americans? That's probably a couple hundred thousand to one. Why don't you worry about them?

IT IS FOOLISH to mourn the men who died for this country. Rather we should thank God such men lived.' — George S. Patton

Upcoming Meetings

The **Linden City Council** will hold a regular meeting at **7 p.m. on Monday, May 22** in Council Chambers.

The **Fenton City Council** will hold a regular meeting at **7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 22** in Council Chambers.

The **Lake Fenton Board of Education** will hold a regular meeting at **7 p.m. on Monday, May 22** in the Alberta B. Martin board room.

The **Holly Village Council** will hold a regular meeting at **7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 23** at the Karl Richter Community Center.

The **Fenton Township Zoning Board of Appeals** will hold a meeting at **7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 23** at the Fenton Township Civic Community Center.

The **Holly Village Planning Commission** will hold a meeting at **8 p.m. on Wednesday, May 24** at the Karl Richter Community Center.

The **North Oakland County Fire Authority (NOCFA)** will hold a meeting at **3 p.m. on Thursday, May 25**.

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Renting a car for summer vacation?

■ Read this before you step up to the rental counter

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

Summer is a time for weekend road trips, extended vacations and a sense of adventure.

Have you ever thought about renting a vehicle, instead of putting miles on your own, for your summer travel plans? Now is the peak time for car rentals, starting in April and continuing through September.

If your own car isn't up to a long road trip, or you lease your car and need to save on miles driven, you may want to consider using a rental car. Maybe your current vehicle isn't big enough to carry extended family and gear for a summer camping trip, or you want to try out a fun summer sports car.

If you're under age 25 and live in

Michigan or New York, you're in luck — state laws require agencies to rent to drivers age 18 and up.

However, you can expect to pay extra fees and be restricted in the type of cars that can be rented, especially if you're aged 18 to 21. Even drivers aged 21 to 24 often have to pay a daily surcharge and some luxury vehicles and SUVs may be off limits.

If you haven't had a lot of experience in renting cars, do some research first before standing at the rental car counter. Even if you're making your plans online, you'll need to know what kind of vehicle to want to rent, whether you need to add additional car insurance and if you're going to pre-pay your gas tank refill. Those are the questions you'll be asked when you pick up your car.

Here are some other things to think about before renting a car:

LOOK BEYOND THE AIRPORT

Because so many people flying into

a particular destination are also looking to rent a car, you may have longer waits and higher rates. Check review sites like Yelp and Google about particular pick-up sites. If you're traveling during the holidays or your trip is for a wedding or another time-sensitive event, call and ask what steps are needed to guarantee that you you'll have a car waiting for you.

KNOW WHAT YOUR INSURANCE COVERS

One of the first questions you will be asked is whether or not you want to buy insurance. The key is to know what your own auto insurance policies cover, then consider your options carefully.

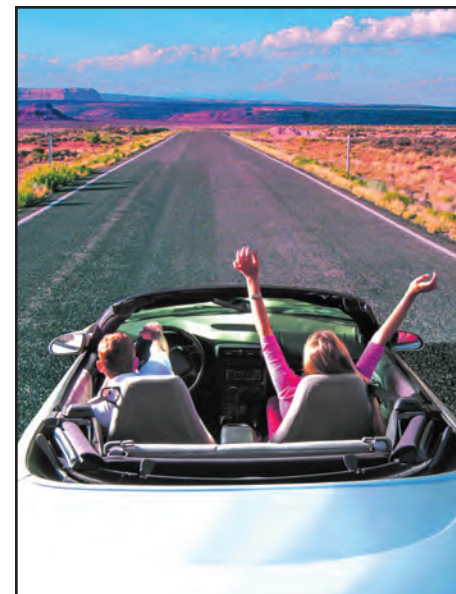
"Our customers who have comprehensive and collision policies — those policies will extend to the temporary use of a rental car," said Linda Hathaway of Brad Hoffman Insurance in Fenton. "However, the rental car company might come back at you for 'diminished value' or 'loss of use' fees if you have an accident that pulls that car of the rental fleet for repair."

The important thing to know is that you want to make these insurance decisions before you're standing at the counter, under pressure to buy an expensive policy.

"If you rent cars frequently, you can buy an endorsement to add to your own policy," said Hathaway. "That will be much cheaper than insurance by the day. But if you only rent a car once a year on vacation, it will be cheaper just to buy their insurance." But contact the rental company in advance for a better deal than standing at the counter, advises AARP.

USE AN APP FOR THE BEST PRICE

New apps are designed to find drivers the best prices, while providing companies with more accurate predictions for having the right number of cars. Autoslash, for example, checks your reservation against new rates, coupons and discounts several times a day. When



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

If you don't often rent cars, the rental car transaction process can seem a little daunting. It pays to do a little research before you stand at the rental agency counter.

RENTAL PRICES CAN VARY WIDELY.

A recent Consumer Reports search showed that a one-week rental for a midsize car ranged from \$258 to \$478.

MOST POPULAR RENTAL CARS:

Chevrolet's Cruze
Chrysler 200
Nissan's Altima
Toyota Camry
Toyota's Corolla

a better rate pops up, Autoslash cancels the existing reservation and books a new one.

WATCH OUT FOR "UPSELLS"

A rental agent might try to get you into a more expensive, larger vehicle by claiming the company doesn't have any more of the size and type you reserved.

Hold out for the price and size you asked for, and make the compromise be on their end, not yours.

DON'T GO FOR THE PRE-PAID FUEL PURCHASE OPTION

You'll almost always pay at least slightly more for gas if you prepay it, but there are some times it makes sense to decide on this option at the counter.

If you know you're going to be pressed for time before a flight, or you're worried about security, you can opt to pre-pay. Check where your return-car location is compared to nearby gas stations, and that can help guide your decision.

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EMP

Continued from Page 7A

attack. Keeping drinking water clean and separate from human sewage and other contaminants would prove to be humanity's biggest challenge.

Access to Water

Human beings require approximately 2 liters of water per day in order to survive. If we do not get that water, we will die in approximately five days. With regard to an EMP attack, our water supplies are especially vulnerable. The power to distribute water is highly concentrated within the United States.

Only eight municipalities provide 82 percent of the drinking water in the United States. There are multiple technologies, which are used to pump water from the source to its final destination. Some

require no electricity, however, most do. And even if your water system was powered by non-electrical means, how would the personnel and staff, who monitors and maintains your water supply, get to work without proper transportation?

Food

The food supply would be imperiled as well. What do crops need to grow? With hydroelectric power gone, where would the water come from for many food-growing regions in the country? Our food supplies would dry up and disappear, thus exacerbating the threat.

Conclusion

The biggest threat to our society is the melt down of nuclear plants following an EMP. However, there are literally a thousand ways to die when an EMP hits.

Source: the commonsenseshow.com

'Sailors wanted'

■ Lake Fenton Sailing Club begins 2017 season with Memorial Day weekend brunch

By Sally Rummel

news@tctimes.com; 810-629-8282

The Lake Fenton Sailing Club will be kicking off the sailing season on Memorial Day weekend with a "Bring Two to the Lake" brunch on Saturday, May 27 at 11 a.m.

"We're inviting people to come take a look at our club," said Susan Franzen, membership coordinator of the club and a second generation member.

"A lot of people don't even know that we're here. We're looking for sailors or people who have an interest in sailing or racing, even if they don't own a sailboat. Where else can you enjoy 350 feet of sandy beach and dunes that are much less expensive than mooring at a marina?"

While the club won't be racing on Saturday, they will hold their first races of the season on Sunday and Monday, May 28 and 29.

There's also a brunch on the Saturday of Labor Day weekend, to close out the season. "Members will bring a dish to pass and guests can just come and enjoy these special brunches," said Franzen.

Other upcoming events include the MC Class Regatta on June 3 and 4, a weekend of races bringing in boats from other sailing clubs. "We sponsor five to seven races, from 10 to 4 on Saturday and 9 to 12 on Sunday," said Gerald Fischer, treasurer of the club. "People are welcome to come out and watch."

Another upcoming event, The One Buck Derby on Sunday, June 25, is a fun race all the way down the lake and back, for the purpose of inviting guests to hitch a ride or race a sailboat. The winner gets \$1 and a chance to wear the cool green derby. Guests can enjoy hot dogs and an ice cream social.

The Lake Fenton Sailing Club has been in existence on Lake Fenton since the 1930s and purchased its property on Sonora Drive in 1968. Fischer, 66, has been a member since he was a 20-year-old student at the General Motors Institute (now Kettering University).

"Sailing is a miracle in the sense that it doesn't use up any resources while still getting you from one point on the lake to another," said Fischer. "It's very quiet, so you can hear the wind and the water."

"If you think you'd like to go for a sailboat ride or join us for fellowship, you can let me know by calling me at (810) 618-3283," said Franzen. "We'll reserve you a spot."

Look for more lake-related stories in our Lake Living pages inside Section B of this week's Times.

Judge McCabe explains youth crime rate

■ 'They are more vulnerable to outside pressure...and their character isn't as well formed'

By Hannah Ball

hball@tctimes.com; 810-433-6792

If it seems like every issue of the Times carries stories about crimes committed by young people, you are correct.

Young people are more likely to commit crimes than older people.

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, homicide and drug-arrest rates peak at age 19, and arrest rates for forcible rape peak at 18. Crimes such as vandalism peak around 16, and arrest rates for forgery, fraud and embezzlement peak in the early 20s. More than half of the offenders the FBI arrests will be taken in by the time they're 30.

Genesee County Undersheriff Chris Swanson said young people commit more crimes because they don't understand the consequences before it's too late.

"The older we get, the more they become real," he said.

Why are young people more likely to commit crimes than older people?

Judge Mark McCabe of the Genesee County 67th District Court said there are Michigan Supreme Court cases that indicate as far as younger people, juveniles, their lack of maturity and underdeveloped sense of responsibility leads to recklessness and needless risk taking.

McCabe doesn't deal with felony cases, and he said he sees defendants of all ages.

"They are more vulnerable to outside pressure, they have limited control over environment, and their character isn't as well formed," he said.

According to The New York Times, neuroscientists suggest that the parts of the brain that govern risk and reward are not fully developed until after age 25. Young people are also more likely to be poorer than older people, and poor people are more likely to commit crimes. As people age, their ties to society and community increase with marriage, they have children, and join the workforce.

Some researchers have found that young offenders usually stop offending in their mid 20s.

The National Institute of Justice found that juveniles who start offending before age 12 are more likely to continue offending into early adulthood, but that

SUMMARY

■ Statistics from the Bureau of Justice show that young people are more likely to commit crimes than older people.

minor offenses such as shoplifting and vandalism usually stop before age 18. Other offenses decrease significantly by age 25.

Criminologists at Carnegie Mellon found that for the eight serious crimes the FBI tracks — murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, arson and car theft — people usually commit those crimes for five to 10 years.

These numbers have led people to question whether long-term prison sentences are appropriate for young people who commit terrible crimes.

"There are U.S. Supreme Court cases which stand for the proposition that children are constitutionally different from adults for sentencing purposes," he said.

McCabe said in the '70s, some jail sentences weren't even appealable.

"As long as it was done procedurally, then that was not something that was looked at. That changed in the 1980s,"



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | FILE PHOTO

Judge Mark McCabe of the Genesee County 67th District Court listens to misdemeanor charges in March 2013 in his Fenton courtroom.

he said. Since then, states have sentencing guidelines. A Michigan Supreme Court case, *People V. Lockridge*, made sentencing guidelines advisory, instead of mandatory.

"There are a lot of issues that always are present in sentences," he said. The issue of young people receiving long sentences can be one of them.

These longer sentences can cause jails and prisons to house people who are no longer threats to society, especially with the rising age of prisoners. The average time served for homicide and non-

“There’s a balance that is struck normally between victims’ rights and the rights of the defendants.”

Mark McCabe
Genesee County 67th
District Court judge

negligent manslaughter increased threefold from five years in 1981 to 17 years 2010, according to the New York Times, and more than 10 percent of federal and state inmates are serving a life sentence, with 10,000 of them being nonviolent offenders.

Although, McCabe said the victims' rights have to be taken into account, too.

"They have the right to be heard, too. There's a balance that is struck normally between victims' rights and the rights of the defendants. Victims have very strong rights," he said.



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'Snack Shack' reopens this year

■ Silver Lake beachgoers can buy sandwiches, snacks and beverages starting Memorial Day weekend.

Decked out in a new American look with red, white, and blue colors and new signs, the Silver Lake Snack Shack is making a comeback this summer after three years of no use.

Starting on Memorial Day, a local family, the Books, will run the shack, selling snacks, beverages, candy, sandwiches, and other foods. "It's a shame when people have to leave because they're hungry and thirsty. If they leave they might not come back," said Jennifer Book.

The Books leased the shack from Fenton City after they talked about it at the end of last year. Book said it was a shame no one was using it. "We just decided to give it a try," she said. "We've been bringing our family out to that beach ever since we've lived in Fenton. Our kids grew up on this beach." She said the city of Fenton and her husband have both been a big help with shack.

"My husband, Tony, has been working very diligently to make sure the shack has been working and that it's up and running," she said. "It needed a lot of work." Tony rehabilitated the shack by painting it and cleaning it out to make it ready for Memorial Day. "We've cleaned up the bathroom. We've given it a pretty good facelift," Book said. "It's just a little shack but it's definitely perfect for the beach."

The shack will be open from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday, and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. "If there are more people when we

close, then we definitely will stay open longer. It just depends," she said.

For the summer holiday weekends the Snack Shack will stay open the entire weekend, Friday through Monday. The Snack Shack is cash only.

The beach has also completed a new professional disc golf course, adding to the volleyball nets, horseshoe pit, gazebo, and other attractions. Book said the disc golf course looks great.

The shack will be the main shop for the disc golf course. They will rent discs and equipment. "It's going to be a lot of fun," she said. "I think the community will be really pleased when they see it. It's going to be something really nice" she said.

They're expecting a big turnout for Memorial Day weekend. "We want to keep you out there all day. We want you to enjoy the entire experience," she said.

Book also wanted the community to know that the beach will be hosting the first ever Beach Olympics on Sunday, June 4th, starting at noon. See the SLPR Summer book for more information or to register.



The new rehabilitated Silver Lake Beach Snack Shack is decked out in red, white, and blue colors.

“We want you to enjoy the entire experience”

Jennifer Book
Silver Lake Beach
Snack Shack leaser

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LOOKING BACK

at this week in

NATIONAL HISTORY

COMPILED BY VERA HOGAN

MAY 21

1999: "The streak is over... Susan Lucci!" announces Shemar Moore of "The Young and the Restless" on this night in 1999, right before presenting the Day-time Emmy Award for Best Actress to the tearful star of ABC's "All My Children." The award was Lucci's first win in 19 straight years of being nominated in the Best Actress category for her portrayal of Erica Kane.

MAY 22

2002: The remains of former Federal Bureau of Prisons intern Chandra Levy are found, over a year after the 24-year-old was last seen at a health club. The bone remains were discovered by a man walking through Washington, D.C.'s Rock Creek Park. What might have been a routine missing-persons investigation became the subject of intense national media coverage when it was discovered that Levy had had an affair with then-U.S. Representative Gary Condit (D-CA). Although police did not name Condit as a suspect, suspicion was rampant. Later, police questioned Ingmar Guandique, who was then serving prison time for assaults on two women in Rock Creek Park, but did not press charges against him. The investigation was reopened and in November 2010 Guandique was convicted of murdering Levy and sentenced to 60 years in prison.

MAY 23

1960: A tsunami caused by an earthquake off the coast of Chile travels across the Pacific Ocean and kills 61 people in Hilo, Hawaii. The massive 8.5-magnitude quake had killed thousands in Chile the previous day. The earthquake, involving a severe plate shift, caused a large displacement of water off the coast of southern Chile at

3:11 p.m. Traveling at speeds in excess of 400 miles per hour, the tsunami moved west and north.

MAY 24

1775: John Hancock is elected president of the Second Continental Congress. Hancock is best known for his large signature on the Declaration of Independence, which he jested the British could read without spectacles.

MAY 25

1975: The grizzly bear, once the undisputed king of the western wilderness, is given federal protection as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. Before the Anglo-Americans began invading their territory, the grizzly bear inhabited most of the country west of the Mississippi from Mexico north to the Arctic Circle. Its only serious competitors for food were the Native Americans, who considered it a sacred animal, although they did hunt the bear as a test of strength and its long claws were prized symbols of status.

MAY 26

1897: The first copies of the classic vampire novel Dracula, by Irish writer Bram Stoker, appear in London bookshops. A childhood invalid, Stoker grew up to become a football (soccer) star at Trinity College, Dublin. After graduation, he got a job in civil service at Dublin Castle, where he worked for the next 10 years while writing drama reviews for the "Dublin Mail" on the side.

MAY 27

2005: This was the third day that Carl Edward Roland, 41, wanted by police in connection with the murder of his ex-girlfriend Jennifer Gonzalez, spent perched on a crane 18 stories above Atlanta's Buckhead neighborhood. Police discovered the badly beaten body of Gonzalez, 36, in a retention pond on May 24. She had been last seen with Roland, for whom police issued an arrest warrant after he did not return to his Clearwater, Florida, home. The next day, Roland showed up at an Atlanta construction site, where he told a worker he had "hurt someone" before taking the crane's elevator up 18 stories and crawling out onto its horizontal arm.

HOT LINE CONTINUED

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MY DAUGHTER LIVES in Flint around Center and Davison roads. In her neighborhood,

there's no garbage cans seen anywhere, junk in yards or junk cars. The grass is cut, the yards neatly trimmed, flowers planted. I come home to Fenton Township and I'm surrounded by people's junky yards. For this, I pay high property taxes.

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Meet JARROD MONTAGUE

- Former 'Taproot' drummer
- Father of five
- Author

By Sally Rummel
news@tctimes.com;
810-629-8282

Jarrood Montague, 41, of Linden, is enjoying a life as interesting as his name. Married to Stephanie and the father of five kids between the ages of 8 and 11, Montague was best known as the drummer for Taproot from 1997 until 2008. He chose to stop touring because of his growing family and work responsibilities at JLL, a Fortune 500 commercial real estate firm.

How did you get involved in a heavy metal rock band, Taproot, in the first place?

I wanted to be a physician. I started at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor in 1994, after graduating from Linden High School. Through friends in a new band called Taproot, I became a founding member of the group in 1997.

Meanwhile, I graduated from U of M in 1998 with two B.S. degrees in four years. I took the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) and got a good score (29). I decided to get my M.S. in Epidemiology at Michigan State University before applying to med school.

By the time I finished the first year of my Master's, Taproot had built a strong fan base and a lot of buzz in the heavy music culture. We signed with Atlantic Records in 1999, and toured the U.S., Europe and Japan. I was either in LA making records or on tour for most of the year.

Even though my personal expenses were relatively small, I found myself broke in the winter of 2005, when the music industry changed from kids buying records to burning CDs from friends. I hired in with the company I'm still with today, JLL, in 2006, and still toured with Taproot until 2008, when I decided to devote myself full-time to my corporate career and family.

Q. How has your life changed since leaving the band?

I am currently a senior vice president with JLL. My client is General Motors, and I'm responsible for their 40 buildings across the U.S. I have about

"By the time I finished my Master's, Taproot had built a strong fan base and a lot of buzz in the heavy music culture. We signed with Atlantic Records in 1999, and toured the U.S., Europe and Japan."

Jarrood Montague
Founding member and former drummer of Taproot



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jarrood and Stephanie Montague of Linden are pictured with their five children, including three biological sons and two adopted daughters.

500 JLL and business partner employees for whom I'm responsible.

I like having a corporate job that provides a steady income, allows me to see my family every day that I'm not traveling for work. I have time to support my church by being involved in various missions and I'm also able to give to a number of charities that I'm passionate about.

I was recently surprised with the Champion of Excellence Award from JLL, given to just a handful of the 65,000 employees. It's essentially a lifetime achievement award. My entire family was there to see me get the award, and then JLL whisked our family off for a resort vacation. It was one of the most amazing experiences of my life and cemented my loyalty to JLL.

Q. How did you get involved with foster care?

My wife always wanted a daughter but God blessed us with three wonderful sons: Maxwell, Evan and Weston. Instead of trying for a girl a fourth time, we explored fostering to adopt. Our first placement was for two beautiful sisters: Mila and Liv. We felt that God was calling us to take them both. After fostering them for two years, the parental rights of their birth parents were

terminated and we adopted them.

Q. What is the most important thing in your life, and how does your daily life reflect that?

My faith, followed by my family and friends. I pray in the car every morning on my way to work instead of listening to music or news. I have seen very tangible and amazing results from the power of prayer and am guided by the Holy Spirit every single day.

Q. What's your favorite part about living in Linden?

I love the sense of community. Many of my closest friends grew up and still live in Linden. I love to go to church, the Little League games, the gas station or a restaurant and bumping into friends. I love the Bridge Street Exchange store and think it's a model for what businesses in Linden could aspire to be.

Q. Do you still drum for fun, or play with a band in your leisure time?

I have five drum kits set up in my basement so my kids and I play often. I play drums in the Praise Band at Linden Presbyterian Church and monthly, I play drums at 2124 Community Church in Brighton. I'm in a rock band called WestFall and we play at local clubs on weekends. I also occasionally play in two other bands for special events: Truancy and Love Gunz.

Q. I understand that you're writing a book. What's it about?

My book is called "True Rockstars: 12 Guiding Principals for Success and Happiness." The book reads as an autobiography with action themes one can use in their own life. I'm targeting a release at the end of summer. I've had a few publishers interested but am leaning toward self-publishing.

Q. What is something about you that most people likely don't know?

I don't talk about it much but I was class president all four years in high school and was Linden's valedictorian in 1994. I'm published in multiple medical journals for some research I did while in college. I'm also an elder at my church where I write and deliver a couple sermons a year.

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NICHOLE JOHNSON

Johnson won her No. 2 singles flight at the regional meet. In fact, all eight Holly flights won their regional title.

Bronchos cruise to a perfect regional championship

By David Troppens

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The Holly varsity girls tennis team is used to winning regional titles.

However, the fourth-ranked in Division 2 Holly Bronchos earned one in the most impressive style possible on Thursday.

The Bronchos captured the regional championship in all eight flights, earning

a perfect team score of 32 points at the regional hosted by Holly High School.

North Farmington finished second with 19 team points while Fenton finished in a tie for ninth with one team point.

At press time it was still uncertain if the Holly girls had ever won all the regional flights at a regional meet before Thursday. It was the first since prep tennis moved to the eight-flight format versus the seven-flight format. Holly varsity girls and boys tennis coach Will So-

phia said the boys did it in 2005 during his freshman year, and recalled the girls coming within one match point from doing it in 2009.

"It was history making, but that doesn't happen if our players don't buy into team goals versus personal goals," Sophia said. "You are not going to win eight flights unless everyone is in it for the same reasons. We took great steps toward becoming a team."

Holly's Taylor Barrett earned the designation. **See BRONCHOS on 19A**

Sports Times

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2017 | PAGE 18A | WWW.TCTIMES.COM/SPORTS

Eagles sweep Gladiators in battle of ranked teams

By David Troppens

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Scoring runs against Linden's pitching and defense hasn't been easy lately.

Since sweeping Bath in a pair of contests on April 27, only one team has managed to score more than three runs against Linden's varsity baseball team over the last 13 contests.

Tenth-ranked Fowlerville in Division 2 wasn't even that successful, managing just one run over two games on Wednesday, as the Eagles (19-4) won a pair of non-league contests. Linden, ranked seventh themselves) won the opener 3-0 and won the second contest 4-1 in eight innings.

"It's nice to play meaningful games this time of year," Linden varsity baseball coach Steve Buerkel said. "Our kids seem to rise for these moments. Fowlerville is a talented team and we

have a great deal of respect for with a 20-1-2 record coming into this game. We pitched well, played good defense and hit well against a good Fowlerville pitching staff."

In the opener, Lucas Marshall continued his consistently outstanding last two seasons on the mound, needing just 82 pitches to toss a three-hit shutout. He walked two and struck out four. In the second game Aaron Sarkon, Travis Kloczek and Jack Shore combined to toss a five-hitter while striking out 10 in the 4-1 victory.

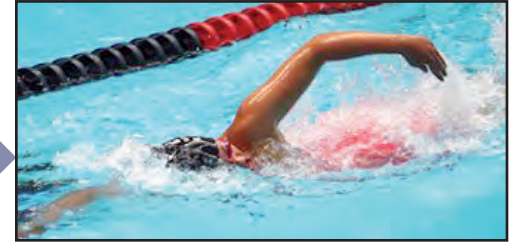
In the opener, the teams were in a scoreless contest until Linden scored two runs in the fourth. Nick Koan singled and eventually scored on Corbin Sines' ground ball that was booted.

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TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS

Brendan Buerkel prepares to slide into home during a recent game. Linden swept Fowlerville on Wednesday.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lake Fenton senior Natalie Gallamore will swim at Division 1 University of Massachusetts Amherst in the fall.

LF's Gallamore headed to U-Mass to swim

By David Troppens

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Natalie Gallamore wasn't the world's most enthusiastic swimmer at first.

In fact, the Lake Fenton senior hated it.

"I broke my leg in the first grade so I had to strengthen it back up," Gallamore said. "I started swimming and I hated it."

"But then we became members of Spring Meadows Country Club and I saw the swim team. I saw them winning ribbons and I thought that was cool. I tried it and have stuck with it ever since."

Now, swimming is her passion, and that passion will continue when she goes to the University of Massachusetts Amherst as a member of the school's Division 1 women's swim program.

"It means the world to me," Gallamore said. "For as long as I can remember, I wanted to swim Division 1 and do it at a program I love. When I finally committed, I felt the weight lift off my shoulders, and with every day I get so much more excited."

Her final two choices were Oakland University or U-Mass.

"I had my recruiting trip and I committed that Thursday," Gallamore said. "I knew as soon as I got back home I wanted to go back there."

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Linden's Sterling DeGayner

Linden softball plays two complete games in sweep vs. Fowlerville

By David Troppens

dtroppens@tctimes.com; 810-433-6789

Finding offense hasn't been terribly difficult for the Linden varsity softball team this spring.

The squad has scored seven or more runs in 17 of 30 games.

Keeping their opponents from scoring has been the challenge more often than not.

Linden put together some good

hitting and some good pitching and defense in the same doubleheader on Wednesday, defeating Fowlerville 11-2 and 12-2.

In the opening contest, Jillian Wright needed just 71 pitches to toss a seven-inning complete game. She allowed nine hits and no walks while striking out four.

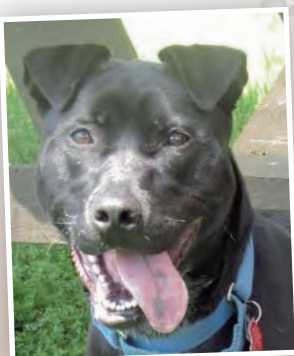
Offensively, the Eagles collected 11 hits.

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Tigers defeat Holly for second time this season

By David Troppens
dtroppens@tctimes.com;

Holly — It was a game both teams could feel good about.

The Fenton Tigers left Holly High School with a 3-1 victory, which is always a good thing if you are a Fenton Tiger.

However, the Holly varsity girls soccer team could feel good about its performance as well. Despite losing a 3-1 contest, it marked a much better performance from the last time the two teams competed against each other during this season. Holly was overwhelmed in a 6-0 loss to the Tigers at Fenton High School. So even in the loss, the Bronchos saw a lot of improvement in this second match-up.

On Wednesday, Fenton jumped to an early lead, scoring 6:59 into the contest. The

goal came when Eryn Isaacson assisted a goal by Lauren Murphy. Murphy took a pass from Isaacson and then dribbled by Holly's keeper Lalli Valdovinos and scored the goal.

The contest remained 1-0 for most of the rest of the first half. Holly had the wind at its back and had most of the quality scoring chances in the first 40 minutes. However, it was Fenton who scored both goals during the first half. The second came with 4:07 remaining before intermission when Isaacson had her second assist of the contest. This one came on a thru pass to Katelyn Britton who scored. Fenton went into the half up 2-0.



TRI-COUNTY TIMES | DAVID TROPPENS
Fenton's Kirsten Foor (left) battles with Holly's Victoria Karakuc for the ball in the Tigers' 3-1 victory against the Bronchos on Wednesday.

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■ LF baseball's strong pitching leads team to sweep against Birch Run

The Lake Fenton varsity baseball team has had a tough stretch recently. After sweeping a doubleheader against Goodrich, the Blue Devils have lost two games against Fenton, one against Linden and another two against Montrose.

■ Fenton baseball's run in tourney ends vs. Powers

Fenton's Greater Flint Baseball Tournament run ended a little quicker than the Tigers hoped. But, the Tigers still have plenty of key games coming up in the next week to worry about anyway. Fenton lost to Powers 7-4 in the Greater Flint event on Tuesday.



BRONCHOS

Continued from Page 18A

tion as the region's top singles player, winning the No. 1 singles title in three straight-set matches. The sophomore defeated North Farmington's Louise Clarke 6-3,

TRI-COUNTY TIMES | SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Holly girls tennis program captured all eight regional flight titles at the D2 regional held at Holly High School on Thursday.

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6-3 in the No. 1 singles regional championship match. Perhaps of all the regional flight championship victories, none was

more impressive than Mackenzi Sells' title at No. 3 singles. She lost just one game in three matches at the tourney, eventually winning the championship match against South Lyon's Lizzie Hiscock 6-0, 6-0. Holly's No. 2 singles player Nicole Johnson won her title match by default. She won her first two matches by identical 6-1, 6-0 scores.

Lake Fenton softball sweeps Birch Run

By David Troppens
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There was a time when the Lake Fenton varsity softball team was just a few games above .500.

When the squad played conference foes, the Blue Devils always won, but outside the league the young team struggled.

But in recent times that has changed. The Blue Devils won their ninth and

10th straight games on Tuesday, sweeping Birch Run in a twinbill. Lake Fenton scored three seventh-inning runs to capture an 8-7 victory in the opening game. In the second contest the Blue Devils won 17-13.

The wins have upped Lake Fenton's overall record to an impressive 20-7 overall.

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PREP REPORT

BOYS GOLF

► **Flushing 177, Holly 194, Kearsley 199:** Noah Rooker led the Bronchos with a 46 on Flushing Valley Golf Course while Matt Moller carded a 48. Luke Harrington shot a 49 and Danny Mathews shot a 51.

GIRLS LACROSSE

► **Walled Lake Northern 10, Fenton/Linden 8:** Fenton/Linden (9-5) scored six second-half goals, but it wasn't enough to lead the squad to the victory.

► **Fenton/Linden 14, Saginaw Heritage 8:** Fenton/Linden improved to 10-5 with the victory. The area co-op led 8-3 at halftime and cruised to the win from there.

SOFTBALL

► **Swartz Creek 5-8, Fenton 4-7:** The Tigers lost two heartbreaking contests against the Dragons. In the 5-4 loss, Logan Carter hit a home run. Sara Eisenbeis, Meaghan McARDles and Michaela Willett had two hits each.

In the second game, Logan Carter and Hailee Prater hit home runs. Willett had three hits while Eisenbeis and Carter finished with two hits. Erin Carter

had a double.

► **Holly 12-3, Clarkston JV 1-2:** Madisen Beesley had three hits and two RBI and also pitched five shutout innings, leading the Bronchos (12-13) to the win in the opening contest. Maika Hogarth also had three hits while Jillian Cohoon, Katie Dewey and Aubrey Jenkinson had two hits each.

In the 3-2 victory, Lilly Raymer drove in all three Holly runs with two coming on an inside-the-park home run in the first inning. On the mound, Marissa Beck tossed all five innings of the contest, striking out eight.

BOYS LACROSSE

► **Fenton/Linden 11, Arbor Prep 0:** The Fenton/Linden co-op squad dominated the contest as Derek DeLong had four goals and four assists. Tyler Bourassa, Dylan Miesch and Josh Logie had two goals each while Danny Puduck and Nate Ladd had a goal each. Bobby Temple had three assists while Dylan Miesch and Tucker Whitman had two assists.

Goalie Joe Loria had eight saves while Anthony Barnett had two saves.

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